

Youth Initiative Program

July 2006

Network Providers Newsletter

Issue 7

MEETING REMINDER

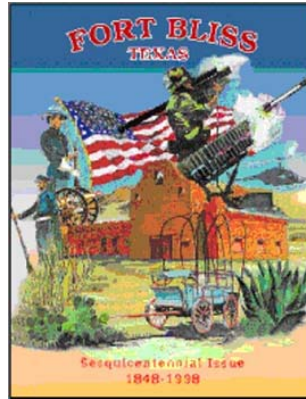
The Youth Initiative Program (YIP) will hold its next networking meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 20, 2006, at 5300 E. Paisano, El Paso Housing Authority - Assembly Room. For information call (915) 298-9600.



This month's scheduled speaker is Ana Hernandez, Parent to Parent Team Leader of the Military Child Education Coalition. The coalition serves to ease academic transition among military families teaching techniques useful for any parent with school-age children, such as how to find the right school, how to prepare a portfolio, what records to keep – information useful throughout the student's educational process. Contact Ana Hernandez at (915) 613-5186 ana.hernandez@militarychild.org.



Our thanks to Peggy Brown, Director of Community Services, (speaker pictured) who spoke at the June YIP meeting about the needs of the incoming troops to Ft. Bliss. Over 130 agencies attended in preparation and support. Thanks also to the Woodmen of the World and Clarke Peters for donating the U.S. flags, and to NERCC Officer Slade Davis for his beautiful rendition of "God Bless the USA".



"Bienvenidos a Bliss!"

Ft. Bliss Army Community Service is hosting a "Bienvenidos a Bliss" Relocation Fair on Thursday, August 31, 2006, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Centennial Banquet and Conference Center. Non-profits can participate free; please contact Cher Poehlein at 568-1132 or cher.poehlein@bliss.army.mil.

The event will also include a volunteer fair where volunteers can be recruited and new partnerships formed. Contact: Tephania Hopper at 568-1132 or tephanie.hopper1@us.army.mil.

El Paso will be a new duty station to many new troops and families. This fair will be an opportunity to learn about the various services and goods available and to meet community neighbors.



National Night Out August 1st

The 23rd Annual National Night Out is Tuesday, August 1st. Neighborhoods across America will be promoting crime prevention, police and community partnerships. This can be as simple as inviting the neighbors on your block for an ice cream social. Get acquainted, and talk about areas of concern. To get involved locally, contact your nearest crime prevention officer at any of the Police Regional Command Centers.



Central Regional Command Center Explorers prepare for fingerprinting



Local residents seek information



Attending youth with future hopes in law enforcement tries on handcuffs

Highlighting activities for youth was the aim of a Saturday event sponsored by Guillen Middle School on June 10th. The event, which included fingerprinting by the Central Regional Command Explorers, also provided information by Aliviane, Housing Authority, Parks and Recreation, Boys and Girls Clubs, and the EPPD Youth Initiative Program. Representative Beto O'Rourke was on hand to promote the need for youth activities.



The El Paso Healthy Marriage Project!

Model Cities – El Paso is in the process of forming an El Paso Strong Marriage Coalition!

Family is the fundamental building block of human civilizations. Marriage is the glue that holds it together. The health of our culture, its citizens and their children is intimately linked to the health and well-being of marriage. This is well known and an invitation is extended to learn more about the coalition assembled to help us become knowledgeable and articulate advocates for marriage and family in our sphere of influence. Community-based coalitions are popping up across the country to preserve intact families and counter the breakdown of the family. Model Cities is leading out in the formation of this local coalition and everyone is invited to join. One of their plans is to apply for a grant from the Administration for Children and Families. It is called the Healthy Marriage Initiative – to help youth, adults, and couples gain greater access to marriage education services where they can acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to form and sustain a healthy marriage. You may be the recipient of some of those resources if the grant is received.

Interested organizations may be faith based groups, child welfare organizations, educational entities, domestic violence groups, community action agencies, non-profits and corporations interested in healthy families.

The grant is being written now and time is of the essence. The coalition will be meeting again so please reply ASAP. For more information, contact: Roger O'Dell w. (915) 591-0404, fax 915-591-0222, h. (915) 855-8488, c. 915-276-9626 or rogerthat@aol.com Office – 2267 Trawood Suite E-2, El Paso, Texas 79935.

“Marriage and family are the foundation keystones for all healthy civilizations.” – Roger O'Dell



Child Car Seat Inspection/Installation is offered by the El Paso Police Department. Contact Margaret Meraz (915) 564-7352 for more information.



Child Abuse Awareness Coalition

The Child Abuse Awareness Coalition meets monthly to provide resource information among the members.

At the June 12th meeting, Cynthia Castro highlighted services of Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) that serves children zero to 3 years of age. Services include speech, ocular, nutrition, vision and various other therapies. ECI helps children identified with delays in development or disabilities.

Nell Tovar spoke about the Youth Initiative Program (YIP), the importance of community partnerships and networking.

The next Coalition meeting is Monday, July 10, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 1000 Montana. Contact: Angie Escarciga, CPS Community Initiatives Specialist, at (915) 521-3875.

Red Cross Water Safety Class

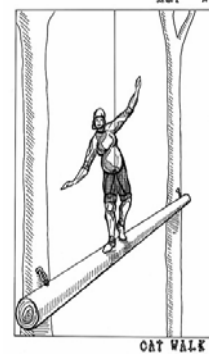
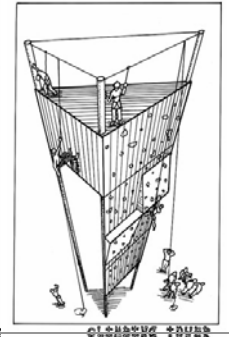
Where: El Paso Zoo - 4001 E. Paisano
When: July 8th - 11:15 & 3:15 (after sea lion show) Course Free with Half Price Zoo admission for the day

Note: This class is NOT inside the water - leave the floaties at home.
www.redcrosselpaso.org



Integrating Adventure Education with Drug Prevention – Summer Retreats Start soon!

Adventure Education is based on the tenet that creating personal change is more effectively accomplished by doing, as opposed to being told. It provides the opportunity for personal growth, to learn self-worth, to accept responsibility, and to internalize new coping skills. Adventure Education Programs operate on the premise that individuals change when facing new obstacles and opportunities that are challenging yet achievable. Since each individual possesses different experiences, strengths and weakness, it is necessary to have elements with varying levels of difficulty. (7-12th grades)



Challenge-by-choice enables each person to stop when they reach the end of their comfort level, with a wide range of elements allowing each to reach their potential.

INDOOR – local - summer retreats. Minimal cost for an overnight retreat; features include: Integrating DEA's Prevention Leadership Training with the **"Challenge by Choice Course"**, developing a school-based Prevention Plan, exposing participants to NEW and exciting alternatives to using drugs; "getting high on life / not drugs." Contact Special Agent David Monnette at (915) 832-6233 or (915) 204-2265 dwmmonnette01@msn.com.



Rally on the River

The 2nd annual Rally on the River took place on Sunday, June 25 concluding with an arch of balloons, representing the colors of the US and Mexican flags, released over the Rio Grande. Law enforcement & community agencies from the surrounding area came together in a unified effort to curb drug trafficking and abuse. The event, sponsored by Rio Grande Safe Communities Coalition, served as a way to celebrate the United Nations' International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking that was observed on June 26th. For information on the coalition, or volunteering, call (915) 775-2555.



Community Services Available through EPCC

Josie Manriquez, a Program Student Advisor with the Office of Recruitment & School Relations at EPCC, is available to present information about the many community services available through the EPCC. To schedule a presentation on the EPCC Program, ESL, or GED classes to your organization and program participants, call: (915) 831-2575.

YIP Welcomes New Members!

EL PASO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT - PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT
6531 Boeing Dr., El Paso, TX 79925
(915) 779-4211 Fax (915) 771-1131

Email: afsegovi@episd.org
<<mailto:afsegovi@episd.org>>

Albert Segovia, Program Assistant

Web site: www.episd.org

<<http://www.episd.org>>

Service: Monthly presentations on topics for parental involvement and various activities at each EPISD campus.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF EL PASO - YOUTH PREVENTION
UNIVERSAL (YPU) PROGRAM

5300 E. Paisano, El Paso, TX 79905
(915) 849-3665 Fax (915) 849-3710

Service: Substance abuse prevention program for youth ages 11-14 years old. This program is offered throughout the Public Housing Complexes as an after school program utilizing the All Stars curriculum.

ALTERNATIVES CENTRE FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

5001 Alabama, El Paso, TX 79930
(915) 565-4800 Fax (915) 565-3163

E-mail: acbh3@netscape.net
<<mailto:acbh3@netscape.net>>

Jennifer Banks, R.N.

Web site: www.alternativescentre.com

Service: Increase adolescent knowledge of various coping and refusal skills; increase awareness of the consequences of drug and alcohol abuse; provide necessary tools to make informed decisions.

El Paso Zoo " Law Enforcement & Military Appreciation Day"

The El Paso Zoo honors the men and women who save, serve and protect our country with a ½ price day on Sat., July 8th, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. This salutes the fire fighters, customs agents or any member of law enforcement or the military community. The Red Cross will teach rescue techniques & there will be a massage chair provided by Alpha & Omega Wellness Center, a Jumpy Balloon by Goodman Financial, and Karaoke for the kids & music by Pat Ramos. The Afro-Latin group Radio La Chusma will be performing live from 2:00p.m. - 4:00 p.m. El Paso Zoo: 4001 E. Paisano, (915) 521-1850.



Join UNC Charlotte's SIBLING PROJECT

UNC Charlotte is studying how siblings of children with mental disorders are doing. If you have a child currently receiving mental health services, and other children in the home (aged 5-10 years), you can help!

You can help to learn what families need to be successful and help improve services and supports for children and families like yours.

You will be asked to answer a set of questions – some about your child who is receiving mental health services and some about each sibling. For your time you will receive \$10 for answering questions about your child receiving services and up to \$45 for answering questions about each sibling. You can participate in the future and be reimbursed for your time. Your participation is completely voluntary.

To get more information, with no obligation, please contact:
Samantha at 704-687-3230 or
1-866-431-7437 (toll free).



Operation Identification

This citizen's burglary prevention program is for home and business use. The program involves the marking of property with an identifying number as a means of discouraging burglary and theft. In communities where it has been implemented, this program has shown dramatic results in its ability to reduce burglaries. Call your area police Regional Command.

Ink Cartridges Support Education

The American Legion national organization along with several other major scholarship programs has a scholarship fund for the children of military personnel killed in action since 9-11. This fund is made possible through the collection of donated ink cartridges. You can take them to the monthly YIP meetings which are always the "Third Thursday at Ten" at the Housing Authority Assembly Room, 5300 E. Paisano or call the American Legion Post 74 at (915) 598-4348 for more information.

Adult Protective Services

APS has fans available for the elderly who have no air conditioning. These fans are free of charge and can be delivered. If you know of an elderly individual who is in need of a fan, please contact the El Paso Police Department Special Victims Unit or Rene Hobson (Community Initiatives Specialist/APS) at (915) 834-5772.



CERT training promotes a partnering effort between emergency services and the people they serve. The goal is for emergency personnel to train members of the community and workplaces in basic response skills. CERT members are then integrated into the emergency response capability for their area. These basic response and organizational skills can be used following a disaster and also applied to daily emergencies.

The Rio Grande Council of Governments is gearing up to offer another CERT class as early as August. Those who took the CERT training set up through YIP can attest that it is very informative and empowering. This course will be completed in two days, Saturday and Sunday. There is no cost; you will receive a basic response kit and certification. (cont'd at right)

CERT members can:

- Improve family protection.
- Give critical support to first responders.
- Provide immediate assistance to victims.
- Organize spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site.
- Help with non-emergency projects that help improve the safety of the community.

CERT Training Program contains:

- Emergency preparedness.
- Fire suppression.
- Utility control.
- Disaster medical operations light search and rescue.
- Team organization.

This is excellent for groups. If you are interested in taking a CERT class, please contact Ofc. Louie Romero or Nell Tovar at (915) 298-9600; tovarm@elpasotexas.gov.

You will be contacted when the schedule is confirmed so that you will have first opportunity to register.

Crimes Against Children
9600 Dyer
El Paso, TX 79924
915-298-9600
www.eppd.gov



El Paso Police Department
Youth Initiative Program
9600 Dyer Street
El Paso, TX. 79924

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